

ABSTRACT

A computer-operated speech therapy system is provided that includes speech input, speech recognition and natural language understanding, and audio and visual outputs to enable an aphasic patient to conduct self-paced speech therapy autonomously. The system of the invention conducts a therapy exercise by displaying a picture; generating a speech prompt asking the patient for information about the picture; receiving the patient's speech response and processing it to determine its semantic content; determining whether the patient's response was correct; and outputting feedback to the patient. Preferably the system includes a touch screen as a graphical input/output device by which the patient controls the therapy exercise.

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